

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY LONDON

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: MASS, TU

SUBJECT: MILITARY SALES TO TURKEY

1. FOLLOWING ARTICLE, APPEARING ON BACK PAGE WALL STREET JOURNAL, AUGUST 18, PROVOKED INTEREST AMONG JOURNALISTS HERE INCLUDING REPORTER FOR TA NEA OF ATHENS. ARTICLE DOES NOT MAKE CLEAR THAT "APPROVAL" REFERS TO PRESIDENTIAL DETERMINATION COVERING DOLS 55.4 MILLION IN SALES UNDER REMAINDER
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OF 1977 FMS AUTHORIZATION FOR TURKEY. JOURNALISTS FOCUSED ON TURKISH MISSILE SALES REPORTED (ACCURATELY) IN ARTICLE.

2. QTE. PRESIDENT CARTER APPROVED THE SALE OF DOLS 55.4 MILLION IN ARMS TO TURKEY, AND BRITAIN ANNOUNCED PLANS TO ORDER TWO U.S.-MADE MISSILE SYSTEMS.

3. IN WASHINGTON, THE PRESIDENT APPROVED TRANSACTIONS INCLUDING THE SALE OF DOLS 17.3 MILLION OF SPARROW AIR-TO-AIR MISSILES TO THE TURKS. THE PURCHASE OF THE 240 MISSILES WILL INCLUDE SUPPORT MATERIALS FOR THE SYSTEM. THE PRIME CONTRACTOR FOR THE MISSILES IS RAYTHEON CO.

4. THE TURKISH SALE ALSO WILL INCLUDE DOLS 14.2 MILLION IN TOW ANTITANK MISSILES, LAUNCHERS AND OTHER EQUIPMENT FOR WHICH HUGHES AIRCRAFT CO. IS THE PRIME CONTRACTOR, AND DOLS 6.6 MILLION OF HARPOON AIR-TO-SURFACE MISSILES, REPAIR

PARTS AND SUPPORT SERVICES. THE HARPOON MISSILE IS MADE BY MCDONNELL DOUGLAS CORP.

5. BRITAIN ANNOUNCED THAT IT ALSO HAS DECIDED TO ORDER HUGHES'S TOW ANTITANK MISSILE SYSTEM, AS WELL AS THE SIDEWINDER AIM 9L SHORT-RANGE AIR-TO-AIR MISSILE, FOR WHICH RAYTHEON ALSO IS THE PRIME CONTRACTOR.

6. JOHN GILBERT, BRITAIN'S DEFENSE MINISTER OF STATE, SAID IN LONDON THAT THE TWO U.S. MISSILE SYSTEMS, AS WELL AS TWO OTHERS PRODUCED BY BRITISH AND FRENCH COMPANIES, WILL BE PART OF A DOLS 700 MILLION MISSILES PURCHASE PROGRAM. THE PURCHASES WILL BE MADE OVER THE NEXT 20 YEARS, HE SAID. UNQTE. VANCE

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